Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00154 111710Z

53
ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01 SAM-01

DRC-01 /152 W
---------- 088253
O P 111625Z JUL 74
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0282
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO US MISSION NATO PRIORITY 0234
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0154

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH
EASTERN REPS JULY 10, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE JULY 10 INFORMAL SESSION OF VIENNA MBFR TALKS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE NETHERLANDS REP, UK REP AND US REP, AND THE EAST BY SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, CZECHOSLOVAK REP KLEIN AND POLISH REP STRULAK.

2. KHLESTOV, WHO HAD MENTIONED TO US REP ON PREVIOUS DAY THAT HE INTENDED ONLY TO MAKE A ROUTINE STATEMENT IN THE JULY 10 INFORMAL SESSION, PRESENTED THE STANDARD EASTERN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00154 111710Z

CASE FOR OPPOSING THE WESTERN DESIRE TO HAVE A FIRST PHASE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

OF REDUCTIONS LIMITED TO US AND SOVIET
GROUND FORCES. USING TALKING POINTS APPROVED IN THE AD HOC
GROUP, NETHERLANDS REP FOR ALLIES FIRST MADE A COMPARISON
OF THE RESPECTIVE POSITIONS OF EAST AND WEST ON THE ISSUE OF
WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET. HE THEN PUT
FORWARD, AS A FINAL STEP TOWARDS AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE,
THE SUGGESTION THAT THE ALLIES COULD CONSIDER A COMMITMENT
BY REMAINING WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO REDUCE THEIR
FORCES TO A COMMON CEILING IN SECOND PHASE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. EASTERN REPS APPEARED TO BE SURPRISED BY THIS DEVELOPMENT.
KHLESTOV REQUESTED A BREAK TO PERMIT EASTERN REPRE-
SENTATIVES TO CAUCUS ON THIS ALLIED PROPOSAL. ON RETURN
KHLESTOV STATED THAT EAST CONSIDERED INACCURATE NETHERLANDS
REP'S SUMMARY OF MOVES MADE BY EAST IN CONNECTION WITH THE
SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD
BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET. KHLESTOV SAID HE WOULD TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT ALLIED SUGGESTIONS THAT EASTERN REPS GIVE
THEMSELVES SOME TIME TO REFLECT ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF
THE ALLIED PROPOSAL THAT REMAINING WESTERN DIRECT PARTICI-
PANTS WOULD UNDERTAKE A COMMITMENT TO REDUCE. HE NONETHELESS
WISHED TO STATE THAT AS FAR AS HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES COULD
SEE, THERE WAS NOT A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EARLIER
ALLIED CLARIFICATION THAT THE WESTERN CONTRIBUTION TO
PHASE II REDUCTIONS WOULD FOCUS ON THE FORCES OF REMAINING
WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AND THE PRESENT ALLIED TEXT,
WHICH MERELY MADE EXPLICIT WHAT HAD BEEN IMPLICIT IN THE
EARLIER STATEMENT. KHLESTOV CLAIMED THAT THE ONLY THING
THE ALLIES HAD ADDED TO THEIR EARLIER "FOCUS"STATEMENT WAS
THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE UNITED STATES, LUXEMBOURG ALSO
WOULD NOT REDUCE IN PHASE II. HENCE, THE ALLIES HAD ADDED
NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE TO THEIR EARLIER POSITION.

4. US REP POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENT ALLIED PROPOSAL WAS
INDEED AN INNOVATION AND AN IMPORTANT ONE. HE ALSO POINTED
OUT THAT KHLESTOV WAS MISTAKEN IN CONCLUDING THAT BOTH THE
EARLIER FOCUS FORMULA AND THE PRESENT PROPOSAL EXCLUDED US
PARTICIPATION IN A SECOND PHASE NEITHER FORMULA ADDRESSED THE
ISSUE OF US PARTICIPATION IN A SECOND PHASE AT ALL; THE FOCUS
OF PRESENT DISCUSSION WAS ON THE ISSUE OF WHAT OBLIGATIONS
SECRET

SECRET

COULD BE ASSUMED BY THE REMAINING WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
AND THIS WAS THE ISSUE ADDRESSED IN THE WESTERN PROPOSAL.

5. AMID CHARACTIERISTICALLY LENGTHY REPETITION, KHLESTOV
CRITICIZED THE ALLIED SUMMARY OF EASTERN MOVES. HE CLAIMED IT
WAS OUT OF ORDER TO CATALOG INDIVIDUAL POINTS INFORMALLY
ADVANCED ON A PERSONAL BASIS DURING COURSE OF INFORMAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

DISCUSSIONS, BECAUSE SUCH SUMMARIZING AND CATALOGING IMPLIED
THAT THESE INFORMAL SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS HAD MORE STATUS,
THAN THEY WERE INTENDED TO HAVE.

6. IN ADDITION TO THIS DISCLAIMER, CONVENTIONAL IN SUCH
CIRCUMSTANCES, KHLESTOV MADE TWO SPECIFIC CHARGES OF
INACCURACY IN THE ALLED POSITION. FIRST, HE COMPLAINED THAT THE EAST
HAD NEVER PROPOSED THAT REDUCTIONS BY ALL REMAINING DIRECT
PARTICIPANTS OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES AND USSR BE POST-
PONED TO A SECOND PHASE OF NEGOTIATION. WHEN NETHERLANDS
REP POINTED OUT THAT HE HAD NOT SAID THAT THE EAST HAD MADE
A FORMAL PROPOSAL ON THIS POINT BUT HAD MENTIONED A REMARK OF
AMBASSADOR SMIRNOVSKY TO THE EFFECT THAT ONE THEORETICAL POS-
SIBILITY MIGHT BE TO POSTPONE REDUCTIONS BY A NUMBER OF WESTERN
DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO A SECOND PHASE, KHLESTOV SUBSIDED ON THIS
POINT. KHLESTOV'S SECOND CRITICISM WAS THAT THE EAST HAD NOT
MADE ANY GENERAL PROPOSAL THAT AGREED OVERALL REDUCTIONS COULD BE
DISTRIBUTED INDEPENDENTLY BY EACH SIDE AMONG DIREDT PARTICI-
PANTS AS LONG AS ALL REDUCED. KHLESTOV CLAIMED THIS REMARK
HAD ONLY BEEN MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF A FIRST STEP REDUCTION,
AND WAS NOT INTENDED IN A GENERAL SENSE. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT HE
DID NOT WISH TO ALLOW THE IMPRESSION THAT THE WARSAW PACT
HAD AGREED WITH THIS CONCEPT IN ABSTRACT, BECAUSE OF ITS POSSIBLE
APPLICATION IN THE CONTEXT OF A PHASE II AGREEMENT ON A COMMON
CEILING.

7. NEXT INFORMAL SESSION WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 15.

END SUMMARY.

REMAINDER OF REPORT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MBFRV00154
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740185-0492
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740758/aaaabxma.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <13 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPS JULY 10, 1974
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005